

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending in the application. Claims 1-3 and 9-11 have been amended, claims 17 and 18 have been added, leaving claims 1-18 for consideration upon entry of the present Amendment. Support for the amendment can be found in Figure 3 and the corresponding description of Figure 3 in the Specification from page 8, line 7 to page 9, line 1. No new matter has been entered.

Claims 1, 3-6, 9, and 11-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tornqvist (U.S. 5,133,036). For an obviousness rejection to be proper, the Examiner must meet the burden of establishing that all elements of the invention are disclosed in the prior art; that the prior art relied upon, coupled with knowledge generally available in the art at the time of the invention, must contain some suggestion or incentive that would have motivated the skilled artisan to modify a reference or combined references; and that the proposed modification of the prior art must have had a reasonable expectation of success, determined from the vantage point of the skilled artisan at the time the invention was made. *In re Fine*, 5 U.S.P.Q.2d 1596, 1598 (Fed. Cir. 1988); *In Re Wilson*, 165 U.S.P.Q. 494, 496 (C.C.P.A. 1970); *Amgen v. Chugai Pharmaceuticals Co.*, 927 U.S.P.Q.2d, 1016, 1023 (Fed. Cir. 1996).

The Examiner recognizes that Tornqvist does not specifically mention a connection conductor being used for connecting an electrode and a signal supply portion. The Examiner asserts that Tornqvist does teach visible emissions achieved by connecting an electric field over two electrodes and light is produced in a phosphor material placed between the electrodes. See Col. 1, lines 14-22 of Tornqvist. The Examiner concludes that it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to utilize Tornqvist's connection of an electric field between two electrodes. The Examiner also asserts that "[o]ne would have been motivated in view of the suggestion in Tornqvist that the desired connection between an electrode and a signal supply can be achieved by connecting an electric field between two electrodes.

Claims 1 and 9, as amended, include the following limitation: "a connection conductor for connecting said second electrode and a signal supply portion, said signal supply portion supplying a signal to said second electrode for controlling said second electrode separately from said first electrode." The amendment to claims 1 and 9 clarifies that the connection conductor forms an actual path for supplying a signal for the second electrode from the signal supply portion to the second electrode, and electrically connects the second electrode and the signal supply portion regardless of whether or not light is emitted from the light emission element. The structure of Tornqvist, as explained by the Examiner, is different

from amended claims 1 and 9. Tornqvist teaches that there is a connection of an electric field between electrodes. Because Tornqvist only teaches a connection of an electric field, it is not obvious to provide "a connection conductor for connecting said second electrode and a signal supply portion, said signal supply portion supplying a signal to said second electrode for controlling said second electrode separately from said first electrode" as recited in claims 1 and 9.

In addition, claims 3-6 include all of the limitations of claim 1 and claims 11-14 include all of the limitations of claim 9. In light of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that a *prima facie* obviousness does not exist with regard to claims 1, 3-6, 9, and 11-14 because the references do not teach or suggest all the limitations of the claimed invention; there is no suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference teachings; and there is no reasonable expectation of success in combining or modifying the teachings to make the claimed invention.

For at least the foregoing reasons, claims 1, 3-6, 9, and 11-14 are not rendered obvious by the references, individually or in combination thereof. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 2, 7-8, and 15-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tornqvist in view of Ishiguro et al. (U.S. 6,146,928) ("Ishiguro"). The Examiner states that Tornqvist does not teach a type of thin film transistors containing a polycrystalline silicon layer, an external signal supply device connected to a light emission panel, and conducting materials of conductors in connection to a gate electrode, drain electrode, and source electrode. The Examiner alleges that Ishiguro remedies such deficiencies of Tornqvist.

Claims 2 and 7-8 depend from claim 1 and claims 15-16 depend from claim 9; thus, claims 2 and 7-8 include all of the limitations of claim 1 and claims 15-16 include all of the limitations of claim 9. Thus, claims 2, 7-8, and 15-16 include the following limitation: "a connection conductor for connecting said second electrode and a signal supply portion, said signal supply portion supplying a signal to said second electrode for controlling said second electrode separately from said first electrode." As explained above, Tornqvist does not teach or suggest that limitation. Moreover, Ishiguro also does not teach or suggest that limitation. Ishiguro describes supply of power from an external power supply 1010 to an LCD panel, but fails to disclose a connection conductor as recited in claims 2, 7-8, and 15-16.

For at least the foregoing reasons, claims 2, 7-8, and 15-16 are not rendered obvious by the references, individually or in combination thereof. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

Moreover, none of the cited references disclose a structure as defined in new claims 17 and 18 in which "each of said thin film transistors electrically connected to said first electrode." This limitation clarifies that a signal for the second electrode, which is not the signal supplied to the first electrode, is supplied from the signal supply portion through the connection conductor to the second electrode. For at least the foregoing reasons, claims 17 and 18 are allowable.

In addition, attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the application. The attached page is captioned "**Version with Markings to Show Changes Made.**"

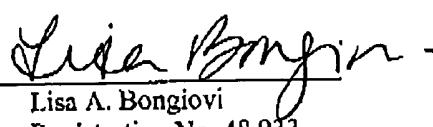
In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the instant application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this application be allowed and a Notice of Allowance issued. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with Applicants' attorneys would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is cordially requested to telephone the undersigned.

In the event the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks deems additional fees to be due in connection with this application, Applicants' attorney hereby authorizes that such fee be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-1130.

Respectfully submitted,

RYOICHI YOKOYAMA

CANTOR COLBURN LLP
Applicant's Attorneys

By: 
Lisa A. Bongiovanni
Registration No. 48,933

Date: August 22, 2002
Address: 55 Griffin Road South, Bloomfield, CT 06002
Telephone: (860) 286-2929
Customer No.: 23413

Version with Markings to Show Changes Made**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claims 1-3 and 9-11 in "marked up" format, as follows:

1. (Marked up/Amended) An active-type light emitting display comprising:
a light emission panel including light emission elements each having a first electrode, a second electrode, and an emissive portion, and ~~thin film~~thin film transistors for respectively driving said light emission elements; and
a connection conductors each for connecting said second electrode and a signal supply portion, said signal supply portion supplying a signals to said second electrode for controlling said second electrode separately from said first electrode;
said connection conductors each having a section between said second electrode and said signal supply portion, at least a part of said section being a multilayer structure formed of a second electrode material used for said second electrode and an conductive material used for said thin film transistors.
2. (Marked up/Amended) An active-type light emission display defined in Claim 1, wherein said conductive material used for said thin film transistors and said connection conductors comprises a material used for a gate electrode, a drain electrode, or a source electrode of each of said thin film transistors, or comprises an arbitrary combination of materials used for said gate electrode, said drain electrode and said source electrode thereof.
3. (Marked up/Amended) An active-type light emission display defined in Claim 1, wherein said conductive material used for said thin film transistors and said connection conductors comprises a metal material used for a gate electrode or drain electrode of each of said thin film transistors.
9. (Marked up/Amended) An active-type electroluminescent display comprising:
a light emission panel including light emission elements each having a first electrode, a second electrode, and a luminous portion, and ~~thin film~~thin film transistors for respectively driving said light emission elements; and
a connection conductors each for connecting said second electrode and a signal supply portion, said signal supply portion supplying a signals to said second electrode for controlling said second electrode separately from said first electrode;
said connection conductors each having a section between said second electrode and said signal supply portion, at least a part of said section being formed of a conductive material used for said thin film transistors.

10. (Marked up/Amended) An active-type electroluminescent display defined in Claim 9, wherein said conductive material used for said thin film transistors and said connection conductors comprises a material used for a gate electrode, a drain electrode, or a source electrode of each of said thin film transistors, or comprises an arbitrary combination of materials used for said gate electrode, said drain electrode and said source electrode thereof.

11. (Marked up/Amended) An active-type electroluminescent display defined in Claim 9, wherein said conductive material used for said thin film transistors and said connection conductors comprises a metal material used for a gate electrode or drain electrode of each of said thin film transistors.